

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 177

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Clarence Howard of Johnson County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Clarence Howard; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Howard was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, a prominent local musician and civic leader, Mr. Howard rendered sterling service as Johnson County's Property Assessor for the past fourteen years, during which time he earned the respect of his peers and community alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, the people who were fortunate enough to know Mr. Howard describe him as an unselfish and devoted husband, father, son, and friend who appreciated a great outdoors ripe with cattle and horses, John Wayne's Western movies, and the joy of wearing big Cowboy hats on the musical stage; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard's loved ones cherish the memory of his loyalty, intelligence, thoughtfulness, and his keen sense of humor; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Johnson County, Clarence Howard was a multi-talented musician, playing lead guitar and mandolin, as well as singing bass, baritone, lead, and tenor in his family's band, the Clint Howard Band; and

WHEREAS, as a teenager, he would travel and play music with his father, Clint Howard; one of Clarence Howard's favorite songs was *Tom Dooley*, the first song his father taught him; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s, Mr. Howard played with his dad in the band Clint Howard, Fred Price and Sons, which became well-known as a great mountain music band; they had

show dates at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C., at the 1982 World's Fair in Knoxville, and at the National Folk Festival Wolf Trap Farm Park in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the band toured, giving performances in fourteen different cities under the sponsorship by the Gabier Folklore Society; Mr. Howard also performed on the album *Ballad of Finley Preston, Rounder*, which was recently re-released on CD; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1980s, Clarence Howard, Clint Howard, Dan Isaacs, Doug Warden, and several other artists recorded three albums, *Looking off Down the Road* in 1983, *Way Down in My Cabin Home* in 1987, and *Favorites of Clint Howard and Doc Watson* in 1988; and

WHEREAS, during the past twenty years, Clarence Howard played regularly at a variety of venues, including the Traditional Stage at Merlefest, Doc Days, Studio One at ETSU's public radio station WETS, the Down Home in Johnson City, Butler Days, The Cranberry Festival, The Rex Theater, Galax, VA, the Laurel Theater in Knoxville, the Carolina in the Fall concert, and most recently at Heritage Hall in Mountain City; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard's most recent albums are *Passing it On* and *Clint Howard Band Live Times Two*, both released in 2004, and *Now and Then: Three Decades of Old-Time Music* in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Howard was a 1972 graduate of Johnson County High School and a graduate of Elizabethton Business College; and

WHEREAS, he had worked as a purchasing agent for Johnson County for five years, and then at Appalachian State University for a number of years before being elected in 1992 as the Johnson County Property Assessor, the position in which he was dutifully serving his fourth four-year term; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard was a lifelong Baptist and an active and devout member of Antioch Baptist Church; he accepted Jesus as his personal savior at the tender age of eleven; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Howard was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Howard was preceded in death by a nephew, Mitch Howard, in 2002; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Glenda Proffitt Howard; daughter, Sandra McCloud, with husband, Larry; sons, Garet Howard, with wife, Tracie, and Brad Howard; parents, Clint and Betty Snyder Howard; sister, Patsy Robinson, with husband, Larry Timbs; brother, Ray Howard; grandchildren, Will McCloud, Leah McCloud, and Portia Howard; nieces, Ashley Howard, Hana Howard, and Rachel Shearin; and nephew, Clint Robinson; and

WHEREAS, Clarence Howard leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Clarence Howard, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Howard.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.